

In re Patent Application of:
FLICK
Serial No. 10/648,931
Filing Date: AUGUST 27, 2003

REMARKS

The Examiner is thanked for the thorough examination of the present application and for identifying allowable subject matter in Claims 2, 3, 11-16, 24, and 25. Independent Claims 1, 17, and 23 have been amended to further define the invention over the cited prior art references. Dependent Claims 2, 4, 9, 21, 24, 26, and 31 have been amended for consistency.

The Examiner is asked to provide confirmation of consideration of the information disclosure statement filed on November 19, 2003.

The claim amendments and patentability of the claims are discussed in greater detail below. Favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested.

I. The Claimed Invention

Amended independent Claim 1, for example, is directed to a pre-warn vehicle security device for a vehicle comprising a data communications bus extending throughout the vehicle and an alert indicator. An alarm controller interfaces with the data communications bus extending throughout the vehicle and when in an armed mode causes the alert indicator to generate an alarm indication responsive to a high security threat level. The pre-warn vehicle security device comprises a pre-warn vehicle security sensor for sensing a security threat level lower than the high security threat level. The pre-warn vehicle security device further comprises a pre-warn emulator for generating at least one

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signal on the vehicle data communications bus extending throughout the vehicle responsive to the pre-warn vehicle security sensor so that the alarm controller causes the alert indicator to generate an emulated pre-warn indication different from the alarm indication. Independent Claim 23 is a related method of Claim 1.

Amended independent Claim 17 is similar to Claim 1 and includes a pre-warn vehicle security device comprising a pre-warn vehicle security sensor for sensing the high security threat level, and for sensing a threat level lower than the high security threat level. The pre-warn vehicle security device further comprises a pre-warn emulator for generating a high security threat level signal on the data communications bus extending throughout the vehicle responsive to the sensed high security threat level, and for generating at least one armed mode signal on the data communications bus extending throughout the vehicle responsive to the sensed low security threat level so that the alarm controller causes the alert indicator to generate at least one armed mode indication as an emulated pre-warn indication.

II. Claims 1-10, 17-32 Are Patentable

The Examiner rejected independent Claims 1, 17, and 23 as unpatentable over the Hwang patent. The Hwang patent discloses a prealarm system for an anti-theft alarm. The prealarm includes a vibration sensor hardwired connected to a one shot timer, which is hardwired connected to a controller that is hardwired connected to an alert indicator. The one

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shot timer is activated based upon the vibration sensor and the controller causes the alert indicator to generate a warning based upon the one shot timer. The Examiner correctly notes that the Hwang patent fails to disclose that the communication line connecting the one shot timer and the controller is a data communication bus.

In contrast, amended Claim 1, for example, is directed to an alarm controller interfacing with a data communications bus extending throughout the vehicle, and a pre-warn emulator for generating at least one signal on the vehicle data communications bus extending throughout the vehicle. In other words, the alarm controller and the pre-warn emulator are connected to a data communications bus that extends throughout the vehicle. The Hwang patent fails to disclose a data communications bus, especially one that extends throughout the vehicle as is recited by Claim 1. Moreover, the Hwang patent discloses only a simple one shot timer and fails to disclose the claimed pre-warn emulator connected to a data communications bus extending throughout the vehicle. Independent Claims 17 and 23 include similar features to Claim 1.

Accordingly, independent Claims 1, 17, and 23 are patentable. The dependent claims, which recite yet further distinguishing features of the invention, are also patentable, and require no further discussion.

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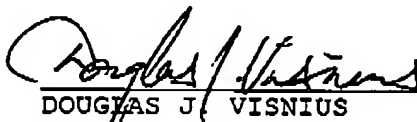
III. Claims 9, 21, and 31 Are Patentable

The Examiner rejected Claims 9, 21, and 31 as unpatentable under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting. While Applicant disagrees with Examiner's rejection, to advance prosecution, attached is a signed and timely filed terminal disclaimer to obviate the obviousness-type double patenting rejection.

CONCLUSIONS

In view of the amendments to the claims, the arguments presented above, and the signed terminal disclaimer, it is submitted that all of the claims are patentable. Accordingly, a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested in due course. Should any minor informalities need to be addressed, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



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CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing correspondence has
been forwarded via facsimile number 703-872-9306 to the
Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-
1450 this 9th day of May, 2005.

